GMIT Library Strategic Plan 2013-2016

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GMIT
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA NA GAILLIMHE-MAIGH EO
GALWAY-MAYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Introduction

Amidst the backdrop of challenging economic circumstances, complex pricing models, a diverse student cohort and rising user expectations, GMIT Library, comprising Dublin Road Library, Centre for Creative Arts & Media Library and the Moore Library in the Mayo Campus, sets out its key strategies in the Library Strategic Plan 2013-16. This plan is aligned to the Strategic Development Plan 2010-2015 Your Place – Your Future (2010) and the Strategic Plan Revision 2013-2016 (GMIT 2013) and encompasses five strategic pillars:

- Learning and Teaching
- Collaborations and Alliances
- Research Development and Innovation
- Student Community Engagement
- Internationalisation

Following extensive consultation with stakeholders, the library will strive to satisfy the needs identified through that process, by providing state of the art learning facilities and information resources. This will be achieved by leveraging the advancements in technology coupled with the competence and experience of the library's most important asset, its staff, who provide a strong customer focused service responsive to the needs of its users.

The library will reach out to the wider community and the region and continue to develop and nurture meaningful partnerships with other entities in the region and beyond. The Library Strategic Plan will realise its objectives based on the five strategic pillars of the Institute.

Margaret Waldron
Librarian

GMIT Library Strategic Plan 2013-2016

Library Mission

The mission of the library is to promote a learning culture within GMIT by acquiring, organising, disseminating and providing access to learning resources and services in a supportive environment. The library will support teaching, learning, research and regional development by providing a quality driven service to all its users in all campus libraries.

Library Vision

The campus libraries are the centre of learning in GMIT, the core activity of the Institute. Library responsiveness and support of its users will be paramount. GMIT Library will continue to adapt and change according to the needs of the organisation. The library will endeavour to build collaborations on a regional basis to meet the needs of the region.

Library Goals

The library will:

1. Support the Institute's strategy to make the student learning experience more active and participatory.
2. Provide a quality driven service in a supportive learning environment for all its users.
3. Continue to enhance existing collections to support the needs of all users.
4. Contribute to the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the local community.
5. Provide a welcoming environment for all international students.
6. Support the research activities of the Institute.

GMIT Strategic Pillars

Learning & Teaching	- Approaches to Learning & Teaching - Student Engagement - Assessment - Learning Environment - Staff Development
Collaboration & Alliances	- Regional Cluster - Strategic Alliances - Thematic Clusters - Working Collaboratively
Research Development & Innovation	- Specialisation and Strength - Research Scholarship and Teaching - Promoting Research and Maximising Talent - Building RDI Alliances - RDI Links with Enterprise
Student-Community Engagement	- Learning through Wider Engagement - Responsible Practices - Access and Participation - Working with Business and the Community
Internationalisation	- Consolidation of EU Partnerships - Diversification Outside Europe - International Programme Portfolio and Quality Service

(GMIT 2013, p.5)

Library Strategy

LEARNING & TEACHING

GMIT Objectives:

1	Approaches to Learning & Teaching: Provide leadership and support for innovative approaches to Learning & Teaching.
2	Student Engagement: Facilitate student's engagement in their own learning.
3	Assessment: Guide and support assessment for learning as well as assessment of learning.
4	Learning Environment: Create a learning environment to underpin student-centred learning.
5	Staff Development: Ensure that staff are effectively supported in making their contribution to learning and teaching.

Library Objectives:

1	The library will support the Institute's strategy to make the student learning experience more active and participatory.
2	It will provide a quality driven service in a supportive learning environment for all its users.

Key Strategies:

1	Continue to strive to maintain a high level of service to all library users.
2	Establish strong links with academic staff to develop a current and relevant collection.
3	Continue to enhance existing print and online collections to support the needs of all users.
4	Liaise with academic staff regarding support for academic assignments and projects.
5	Review annually the Collection Development Policy.
6	Review annually and enhance • the Information Skills Module • Library Induction and the First Year experience • EndNote training • Online Resources training
7	Provide Advanced Word training.
8	Develop relevant and effective YouTube tutorials on all key resources.
9	Align library staff development with the needs of the Institute.
10	Attract and retain staff with a commitment to professional development as supported by the Institute.
11	Provide space in the library for an Academic Writing Centre.
12	Provide a safe and secure environment.
13	Monitor library opening hours including usage patterns and user feedback.
14	Continue to consult with the Students Union to improve the learning environment for all users.

15	Offer multiple opportunities for feedback.
16	Maintain a high quality suite of group study rooms for student group study purposes with state of the art facilities.
17	Convert the multimedia room in the Galway campus into a silent study zone only and maintain the existing silent zone on floor one.
18	Liaise with Computing Services to provide an adequate Wi-Fi service.
19	Maintain high quality technological equipment within existing resources.
20	Provide comfortable seating and study facilities.
21	Strictly control noise levels.

COLLABORATION & ALLIANCES

GMIT Objectives:

1	Regional Cluster: Establish and sustain the regional cluster of HEIs which collaborate to address the needs of the region.
2	Strategic Alliances: Establish and sustain current and future alliances that enable GMIT to make a higher impact on the region.
3	Thematic Clusters: Develop sustainable thematic clusters that enhance selected strengths of the Institute in serving regional and national needs.
4	Working Collaboratively: Encourage and promote effective ways to collaborate with HEIs and other organisations in the region.

Library Objective:

1	The library will work collaboratively with HEIs libraries and other organisations to enhance the needs of the region.

Key Strategies:

1	Engage in formal interinstitutional collaborations on the implementation and maintenance of a research repository.
2	Further develop reciprocal arrangements with NUIG, the Marine Institute and the Connacht Ulster Alliance (CUA).
3	Participate with ongoing partnerships, e.g. Acquisitions Group of Ireland (AGI), Systems Librarians in the IOT sector and the Institute of Technology Librarians group.

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION

GMIT Objectives:

1	Specialisation and Strength: Re-affirm and state GMIT's areas of research strength, differentiation and specialisation and identify possible emerging areas.
2	Scholarship and Training: Closely align research activities with learning strategy in order to develop pedagogical research and enhance student learning and experience.
3	Promoting Research and Maximising Talent: Continuously develop structures and policies which encourage staff and students to be active in research and which are compatible with the financing of research.
4	Building RDI Alliances: Build a network of strategic alliances so that GMIT offers leadership and complementarity in developing the region.
5	RDI and Enterprise: Consolidate and promote research which is driven by needs of enterprise and congruent with their needs.

Library Objective:

1	The library will support the research activities of the Institute.

Key Strategies:

1	Engage in formal interinstitutional collaborations on the implementation and maintenance of a research repository.
2	Provide Bibliometrics training to postgraduate students and research staff.
3	Continue to support research with the provision of appropriate library based learning.
4	Continue to enhance and acquire relevant electronic and online resources to provide a 24/7 service.
5	Review, monitor and update the discovery platform to provide a more seamless searching experience for the user.
6	Provide a timely interlibrary loan service to supplement GMIT collections.
7	Provide library access and membership to IiBC companies.

STUDENT-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

GMIT Objectives:

1	Learning Through Wider Engagement: Enable students to develop their capabilities through wider engagement.
2	Responsible Practices: Contribute to the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the communities served by the Institute.
3	Access and Participation: Meet the national targets for participation in higher education with particular reference to lifelong learning and under-represented cohorts.
4	Working With Business and Community: Work with business and communities to enhance GMIT's reputation and role in the region.

Library Objective:

1	The library will contribute to the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the local community.

Key Strategies:

1	Continue to offer external and lifelong learning library membership.
2	Establish exhibitions of local interest.
3	Liaise with the School Liaison Officer towards library involvement in second level school activities.
4	Engage with schools in the promotion of GMIT activities e.g. Taster Days for the College of Tourism and Arts (CTA).
5	Liaise with the Cuirt Festival with a view to hosting activities of local interest.
6	Engage with nationwide cultural and educational initiatives e.g. Library Ireland Week, Science Week, Adult Literacy Week.
7	Continue to investigate and develop reciprocal collaborations in the region.

INTERNATIONALISATION

GMIT Objectives:

1	Consolidation of EU Partnerships: Consolidate and deepen links with European Institutes to promote staff and student exchange.
2	Diversification Outside Europe: Increase and diversify international revenue base further.
3	International Programme Portfolio and Quality Service: Enhance international programme portfolio and provide quality service.

Library Objective:

1	The library will provide a welcoming environment for all international students.

Key Strategies:

1	Provide library collections for international students funded by the International Office.
2	Translate library opening hours, brochures and relevant guides into Arabic and Chinese.
3	Liaise with international cultural activities within GMIT.
4	Provide exhibitions on a diverse range of cultures.
5	Liaise closely with the International Office on a formal and informal basis.
6	Provide an enhanced induction programme for international students.
7	Promote opportunities for library staff exchanges with overseas partner institutions subject to funding resources.
8	Investigate collaborative ventures with our international partners.

References:

Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, 2013. Strategic Plan Revision *2013-16 Strategic Pillars Summary*, Galway: GMIT.

Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, 2010. *Strategic Development Plan 2010-2015 Your Place – Your Future*, Galway: GMIT.